

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE
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CINCLANT PRIORITY
USLOSACLANT PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
USDEL MC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
CNO PRIORITY
CMC PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 210181

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES - USMC BASING

REF: STATE 199937, DTG 230027 AUG 77
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1. REFERENCE ADVISED US MISSION THAT THE US WAS ASSESSING
SACEUR'S SHORT TERM INITIATIVE OF BASING SELECTED US
MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE (MAF) UNITS IN THE UK.

2. IN ORDER TO ALLOW CONTINUED CONSIDERATION OF THIS
INITIATIVE, US MISSION SHOULD ADVISE UK MISSION THAT

CINCEUR WILL PROVIDE TO UK THE CHARACTERISTIC COMPOSITION
OF THE FOLLOWING US MARINE CORPS UNITS:

A. MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE (MAB) HEADQUARTERS.

B. REGIMENTAL LANDING TEAM HEADQUARTERS.

C. TWO REINFORCED INFANTRY BATTALIONS.

D. MARINE AIR GROUP HEADQUARTERS AND BOTH FIXED AND
ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT.

E. SUPPORTING UNITS.

F. DEPENDENTS.

3. DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE HEAVILY CAVEATED TO ENSURE THAT
THERE IS NO INTERPRETATION BY THE UK OR NATO THAT A US
COMMITMENT TO STATIONING SELECTED USMC UNITS IN THE UK IS
IMPLIED. IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT BASING IN THE UK
IS ONLY ONE OPTION WHICH THE US IS EVALUATING WHILE
ASSESSING WAYS TO STRENGTHEN USMC SUPPORT OF NATO. THE
PLANNING DATA FROM THE UK WILL BE VALUABLE IN DETERMINING
THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS OPTION VIS-A-VIS THE OTHERS.
FINALLY, WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WITH DETAILED INFORMA-
TION FROM THE EXCHANGE WITH THE UK, A SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT
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OF THE OPTIONS CAN BE DEVELOPED AFTER CONSIDERATION OF
SUCH FACTORS AS:

A. MISSION(S) OF THE MAB.

B. COMMAND AND CONTROL OF THE MAB.

C. AVAILABILITY AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE MAB FOR NATIONAL
CONTINGENCIES.

D. SIZE AND PROXIMITY OF AVAILABLE FACILITIES.

E. PROXIMITY OF TRAINING AREAS, AIRFIELDS, AND EMBARKA-
TION PORTS.

F. FUNDING REQUIRED FOR FACILITIES REHABILITATION/
EXPANSION.

G. COSTING OF THE DEPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT.

4. USCINCEUR IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE DATA SPECIFIED IN
PARA 2 TO APPROPRIATE DEFENSE AND FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS

IN CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY, LONDON.

5. THIS IS A JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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